

USACE FINANCE CENTER  
BIWEEKLY REPORT  
PERIOD ENDING 28 MAY 1999

**CEFMS:**

CEFMS ISSUES:

a. We deployed the "revised" version of the new Key Translation Center (KTC) software on Thursday 20 May. The revised version was necessary since the version we attempted to deploy in April had "overloaded" the existing KTC machines. Although we provided advance, detailed information to the site Data Base Administrators and Data Managers as to the type of problems/situations that would arise we still received some complaints. The problems related to the fact that some District Security Officers (DSO's) had allowed CEFMS users to sign/authenticate CEFMS documents with electronic signature cards that had expired or were noted as inactive. In their defense previous to this release there was no "safeguard" in CEFMS to prevent this action. There is now. Most site DSO's were diligent enough to prevent a large number of occurrences, however, two districts had a very high number of occurrences. We, CEFMS, had two options, either to allow the districts to do a mass "remacing" (re-authentication) or correct the signatures on individual documents. We chose the latter option, since choosing the first would have been a continuation of one of the problems that we were trying to address. A mass "remacing" would have caused a proliferation of the number of documents on the databases that were authenticated by one or two persons versus being electronically signed by someone that had firsthand knowledge of the transaction. The changes we implemented were requirements laid on by GAO and mass "macing" or "remacing" was a GAO concern. We chose the only viable option even though we will experience some bumps in the road at a few locations.

b. I visited the CEFMS Team in Huntsville on 17-18 May and received an update on the status of the CEFMS Modernization. We are continuing with Phase I of four-phase effort. The clean-up portion of Phase I is almost complete. We have completed "optimization" on 1920 of the 1935 forms in the system. I believe that the improvement in the number of open problem reports can be attributed to the modernization effort. You will recall that as we prepared to undertake this effort we identified at least twelve (12) "hot spots" that we intended to address in Phase III. Immediately prior to beginning the actual work we did an analysis on the number of problems being caused by the 12 "hotspots". We determined that two of the twelve were causing

over 80 percent of the problems. We decided to move those two areas into Phase I. The modernization work on the first hotspot, "Obliappr"--the functionality related to funds obligation activities--is nearing completion, implementation could begin in July. The second hotspot, "Praccert"--the functionality for certifying purchase request and commitments--is also progressing rapidly with the potential for implementation in late August, early September. We are confident that implementation of the modernized version of these two areas will lead to a drastic reduction in CEFMS problems.

#### PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

a. The open problem report inventory is 1,117 versus 1,114 on the last report. The inventory includes 151 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 29 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.

b. Thirty-five (35) of the sixty-three databases have no imbalances, nine (9) have one, one (1) has two, six (6) have three, another seven (7) sites have nine or less. Five (5) sites have more than ten.

#### **ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:**

#### CONSOLIDATION OF OPERATING FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS:

##### UPCOMING CONSOLIDATIONS:

a. The next and the last site(s) HECSA (servicing the NCR sites) in the current schedule will be consolidated on 1 August 1999.

#### NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ON BOARD PERSONNEL:

LOCATION:	NUMBER:
Huntsville	25
Millington	275
Washington	2
Other	1
DA Interns (Millington)	5
Total	308

#### DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENTS	As of 04/30/99	Current Month	Year to Date
BY CHECK:			

Checks Issued	158,559	37,604	196,163
Dollar Amount	\$2,534,202,137	\$469,553,155	\$3,003,755,292

BY EFT:

Transfers Made	48,626	15,282	63,908
Dollar Amount	\$1,475,806,192	\$312,082,186	\$1,787,888,378

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. The first session of the CEFAS (Financial Management) course, updated to recognize the CEFMS environment, was conducted 17-21 May in Huntsville. Major aspects of accounting and financial management were taught with emphasis on managerial accounting subjects. Based on the wide range of job series of the attendees at this session we have forwarded a memorandum to all RM's and F&A Officers requesting that they help to ensure that only "managerial" accountants are approved to attend this course. Our target audience is the 414 managerial accountants that remain assigned to USACE locations excluding the UFC. We have also contacted the Training Directorate to enlist their assistance on screening the personnel that are nominated to attend this course.

b. We have completed the Y2K testing between DFAS/DCPS and us on the CEFMS Time and Attendance module, the DCPS Master Employee and Gross Pay Reconciliation's Interface files. All programming changes have been completed by DFAS/DCPS and we passed with flying colors. This means that our Customer Service Representatives will be able to submit the Time and Attendance files and continue to receive reports and accounting information from DCPS without interruption on 1 January 2000.

c. We have finalized the date of our relocation to Building 787 on the Naval Support Activity Mid-South. The move will take place beginning on Friday 13 August and continue through Monday 16 August. We plan to be ready to resume normal operations on Tuesday morning, 17 August. We will provide notification to all serviced locations at the appropriate time. We are striving to make this relocation transparent to our customers. The DFAS construction project appears to be going very well, is approximately 75% complete. Major on-going activities are installation of the carpet and systems furniture and work on the north parking lot.

d. The USACE Finance Center Organization Day Picnic has been scheduled to begin at 1200 hours on Friday, 11 June. The UFC will be minimally staffed that afternoon. Emergency phone numbers, points of contact and other pertinent information will be provided to the serviced activities on or about 7 June 1999.

e. We requested and have received an account number from the Federal Reserve Bank to be used to receive EFT from the private sector for funds in support of civil cost sharing agreements. We are in the process of developing a SOP to be provided to USACE districts that will lay out the procedures for using this account. The receipt of this account number from the Federal Reserve will allow us to make a drastic improvement over the current wire transfer procedure for these funds. THIS EFT CAPABILITY CANNOT BE USED FOR OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.